

(19) World Intellectual Property  
Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
8 April 2004 (08.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 2004/028328 A1

(51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: A47L 9/04

(21) International Application Number:  
PCT/GB2003/003892

(22) International Filing Date:  
9 September 2003 (09.09.2003)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:  
0222565.4 28 September 2002 (28.09.2002) GB

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): DYSON LTD [GB/GB]; Tetbury Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire SN16 0RP (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): JOHNSON, Mark, Andrew [GB/GB]; 92 Kelston View, Bath, Bath and South East Somerset BA2 1NR (GB).

(74) Agents: SMITH, Gillian, R. et al.; Intellectual Property Department, Dyson Limited, Tetbury Hill, Malmesbury, Wiltshire SN16 0RP (GB).

(81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

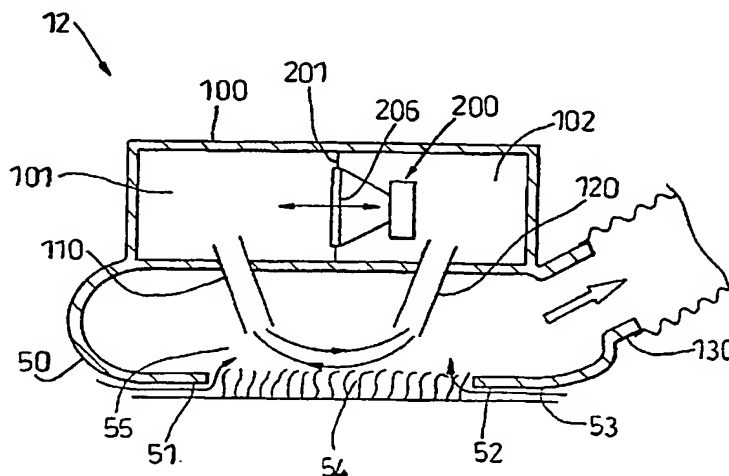
(84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: AN AGITATION APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An agitation apparatus, which is suitable for use in a cleaning head (12) of a vacuum cleaner, comprises first and second flow paths (101, 110, 102, 120). Each flow path has a resonant cavity (101, 102) and an inlet/outlet port (110, 120) which joins the cavity (101, 102) to the space (55) within the cleaning head (12). Generating means (200), such as a loudspeaker with a diaphragm, generates an alternating pressure wave between the ports (110, 120). Pressure waves are emitted from a first of the ports (110) in anti-phase with the pressure waves from the second of the ports (120) and thus operating noise is low. Due to both sides of the generating means (diaphragm) being exposed to an equal static pressure, the generating means operates more reliably. A plurality of these arrangements can be provided across the cleaning head, and a part of the agitation apparatus, such as the driver (200), can be mounted on the main body of the vacuum cleaner.